

July 2012

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Top 25

Many of you have noticed the 2011-12 "Top 25" KYAE programs posted on AERIN. The Top 25 list was determined by averaging rankings in achieving enrollment, academic performance and GED for the 2011-12 fiscal year. To be eligible for the 2011-12 Top 25 list, programs had to meet at least 65 percent of their county enrollment goal.

KYAE plans to post a monthly Top 25 beginning in October 2012. To be eligible, programs will have to meet enrollment benchmarks each month.

The Top 25 is a useful tool for comparing your program's progress throughout the year and networking with successful programs. To find a program comparable in size to your program, [click here](#) to see enrollment and GED goals for all counties.

If you have questions regarding KYAE's Top 25, please contact David Walters, director, performance and accountability, at David.Walters@ky.gov or (502) 573-5114, ext. 122.

Register for Program Directors' Regional Meeting

Don't forget – **July 27** is the deadline to register for a Program Directors' Regional Meeting. Use the [KYAE Course Catalog](#) to register. Attendance for program directors is mandatory. Program directors may bring one staff member. At these meetings, KYAE staff will cover upcoming GED changes, KYAE policy changes, AERIN/NRS changes, among other topics.

For more information about registration, please contact Amanda Walker at Amanda.Walker@ky.gov or (502) 573-5114, ext. 154.

Adult Education Academy director

Please join KYAE in welcoming Jamil Steele as director of the Morehead State University Adult Education Academy. This position was formerly held by Connie Spencer-Ackerman, who retired.

Jamil was the director of adult education and family literacy at Rend Lake College in Illinois. Other previous work experiences include computer support supervisor for Southern Illinois University and program manager for St. Louis Community College's adult and community education. Jamil earned his master's degree in curriculum and instruction from Southern Illinois University and a bachelor's in sociology. He exudes a passion for adult education and he's been described by his colleagues as "open, friendly, helpful, and sincere" as well as "having a strong work ethic and people and technological skills".



Kentuckians assist OVAE project

For the past year, Gayle Box of KYAE's PD team has served on an Office of Vocational and Adult Education (OVAE) panel to assist with a project – *Promoting College and Career Ready Standards in Adult Basic Education* – to validate an accepted set of college- and career-readiness standards as a model for developing or updating state standards. For this purpose, OVAE is using the Common Core State Standards in mathematics and English language arts and literacy in history, social studies, science and technical subjects. The project is intended to support and encourage states to adapt or adopt standards defining what adult students need to know for placement in credit-bearing college courses or job training programs and employment.

Gayle's panel has completed its initial work in selecting standards that will prepare students for credit-bearing college courses or job training programs. A new group of panelists will review the selected standards for applicability to adult students and note any gaps in content. In recognition of KYAE's leadership in implementing the use of KYAE Common Core Standards, we were asked to nominate panelists for the project. Kentuckians participating are Meryl Becker-Prezocki, senior associate, strategic planning, KYAE; D.J. Begley, performance and accountability associate, KYAE; Sue Cain, college readiness and developmental education initiative coordinator, Council on Postsecondary Education; Cris Crowley, Hopkins and Muhlenberg counties adult education director, Madisonville Community College; and Chyleigh Rose, math consultant, Kentucky Department of Education.

Immigration policy may increase ESL enrollment

On June 15, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) [announced](#) a new immigration policy granting deferred action for two years to those subject to potential removal from the United States. The deferment is renewable and, if granted, may provide eligibility to apply for employment authorization. To be eligible, immigrants under age 30 must document that they were brought to the United States under the age of 16, do not present a risk to national security or public safety and have continuously resided in the United States for the past five years. In addition — and this criterion may impact enrollment, including community colleges and adult education programs — the policy states that eligible individuals “are currently in school, have graduated from high school, have obtained a general education development certificate, or are honorably discharged veterans of the Coast Guard or Armed Forces of the United States.” DHS has 60 days to implement the policy and is not yet accepting applications. Please watch for updates at uscis.gov or call 1-800-375-5283.

GED sample test items available

The GED Testing Service has announced the launch of the [2014 GED® Test Item Samplers](#). The Item Samplers are tools designed to provide adult educators with example content and test items that will appear on the new test.

There are four Item Samplers, one for each of the content areas on the new test: reasoning through language arts, mathematical reasoning, science and social studies. Each of the Item Samplers is available in three different formats, but all contain the same information:

- A web-based or online version that requires Internet access.
- A downloadable version that, once downloaded from the Internet, can run on a computer without an active Internet connection.
- A PDF that contains screenshots of each Item Sampler and is designed for use in situations where a paper version of the sampler content is desired.

Please visit www.GEDtestingservice.com/educators/itemsampler to access the Item Samplers, a recorded tour of the Item Samplers and other helpful information. If you have additional questions and comments about the new test, please email GED2014@GEDtestingservice.com.

To receive these e-mail alerts directly from GEDTS, [sign up for Assessment Alerts today](#).

Don't miss these professional growth opportunities

Several upcoming webinars and courses offer free or low-cost professional growth opportunities for adult educators. Check out the following from LINCS, Kentucky Center for Mathematics (KCM) and the National Association for Adults with Special Learning Needs (NAASLN).

LINCS

Free Webinar Series: Serving Youth in Adult Education

Session 1 - Working with Youth/Millennials: Instructional Implications from Generational Research

Presenters: Duren Thompson, program coordinator; Beth Ponder, associate director, Center for Literacy Studies, University of Tennessee

Webinar Date: August 7, 2012, 2-3 p.m. ET

To register, visit: <http://www.cvent.com/d/kcq229>

Registration deadline: August 1

Abstract: Generational research by leading universities and industries has strong implications for addressing the needs of younger learners in both K-12 and adult education settings. Join us for an overview and discussion of this research, particularly the values, expectations, learning styles, work habits and skills of the "Millennial Generation" - digital natives born 1982 - 2000. Facilitators will then explore instructional techniques research suggests may best support these younger learners.

Session 2 - Twitter 101: Finding Purpose in a Tweet

Presenter: Deb Hargrove, program director, Florida TechNet, Indian River State College

Webinar Date: August 28, 2012 - 2-3 p.m. ET

To register, visit: <http://www.cvent.com/d/kcq229>

Registration deadline: August 22

Abstract: Everywhere you turn these days you see references to Twitter. Why are so many organizations using Twitter? Isn't it just a fad? Twitter is a real-time information network, powered by people all around the world, that lets you share and discover what's happening now. Despite the 140 character limit when creating a tweet, Twitter is a valuable tool for sharing vital information with others. Twitter helps you share links to local, state or national information, find and follow other people who share your interests in education, send assignments/memos to students or staff and many other things. See how Twitter was used during the State of the Union Address. Join us for the Twitter 101 overview.

Session 3 - Using Blogs to Enhance & Extend Writing (and Reading!) Practice

Presenters: Duren Thompson, program coordinator; Bill McNutt, technology coordinator, Center for Literacy Studies, University of Tennessee

Webinar Date: September 18 - 2-3 p.m. ET

To register, visit: <http://www.cvent.com/d/kcq229>

Registration deadline: September 12

Abstract: Join us to discuss blogging and microblogging as instructional resources/tools to excite learners about writing (and reading) practice both in and outside the classroom. Facilitators will present a research-based rationale, as well as some examples of motivational writing/reading activities using blogs/microblogs for GED, ABE and ESOL learners.

KCM

KCM is offering a free three-part course targeting middle school mathematics – Improving Mathematics Learning for Students with Disabilities: Algebraic Thinking, Expressions and Equations (Grades 6-8).

In this course, to be presented on three separate days between January 23 and March 20, 2013, teachers will learn ways to make mathematics lessons accessible to a range of diverse learners, while still maintaining high standards and the integrity of the content. Focusing on the patterns and algebra

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strand, teachers will deepen their understanding of the kinds of difficulties students have with this mathematics content and explore different ways to help struggling learners. See the link below for more information and please forward to others who may be interested in participating.

<http://www.kymath.org/EDCMiddleSchool.pdf>

NAASLN

KYAE recognizes NAASLN webinars as valuable professional growth opportunities for adult educators. Programs may use KYAE performance or PD funding for staff to participate; however, the webinars do not substitute for required PD. Program directors should ensure the program has sufficient PD funds to cover KCCS and PowerPath obligations.

NAASLN is offering an opportunity to attend an archived presentation by Dr. Richard Cooper, the well known specialist in the field of learning disabilities. Anyone who has ever attended one of Dr. Cooper's conference or training sessions will appreciate another chance to learn more practical teaching techniques.

Go to www.naasln.org/webinars.htm.

Spelling or Speling: Why is it So Hard?

Poor spellers often become reluctant writers. The embarrassment of spelling mistakes is strong enough to develop the habit of not writing. Not writing means that the person's spelling skills never improve.

How does one break the vicious cycle of not writing and poor spelling? This webinar will demonstrate techniques that the presenter, himself a poor speller, uses to ameliorate his spelling and writing skills.

In this webinar, you will learn about techniques such as stacking, sets, sequences, word patterns and mnemonics that can change a person's self image from a non-speller to an improving speller.

Dr. Cooper, director and founder of the Center for Alternative Learning, is a nationally acclaimed learning specialist, trainer, speaker and author with 25 years of experience as an adult educator, providing staff development training nationwide on the subjects related to learning disabilities, problems and differences.

Fee per video of this session and other archived sessions:

- \$40.00 Non-Members
- \$20.00 Members**

**NAASLN Members: To get this discounted fee of \$20.00 when you register online, use your Members Only Code. If you don't have your code, contact NAASLN@kocmemberservices.com and it will be sent to you.

Go to www.naasln.org/webinars.htm for more information about the on-going NAASLN Webinar Series and registration. If you have any questions, e-mail naasln@kocmemberservices.com or leave a message at 888-5NAASLN (888-562-2756)

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